Leo. A kind ouerflow of kindneſſe, there are no faces truer then thoſe that are ſo waſht, how much better is it to weepe at ioy, then to ioy at weeping?

Beatr. I pray you, is Signior Mountanto returnd from the warres or no?

Meſſen. I know none of that name, ladie, there was none ſuch in the army of any ſort.

Leonato What is he that you aske for neece?

Hero My coſen meanes Signior Benedicke of Padua.

Meſſ. O hee's returnd, and as pleaſant as euer he was.

Bea. He ſet vp his bills here in Meſſina, and challengde Cupid at the Flight, and my vncles foole reading the chalenge ſubſcribde for Cupid, and challengde him at the Burbolt: I pray you, how many hath he kild and eaten in theſe warres, but how many hath he kild? for indeede I promiſed to eate all of his killing.

Leo. Faith neece you taxe Signior Benedicke too much, but heele be meet with you, I doubt it not.

Meſſ. He hath done good ſeruice lady in theſe warres.

Beat. You had muſty vittaile, and he hath holpe to eate it, he is a very valiaunt trencher man, he hath an excellent ſtomacke.

Meſſ. And a good ſouldier too, lady.

Beat. And a good ſouldiour to a Lady, but what is he to a Lord?

Meſſ. A lord to a lord, a man to a man, ſtufft with al honorable vertues.

Beat. It is ſo indeed, he is no leſſe then a ſtuft man, but for the ſtuffing, well, we are al mortall.

Leo. You muſt not, ſir, miſtake my neece, there is a kind of merry warre betwixt Signior Benedicke and her, they neuer meet but there's a skirmiſh of wit betweene them.

Beat. Alas he gets nothing by that, in our laſt conflict, 4 of his fiue wits went halting off, and now is the whole man gouernd with one, ſo that if he haue wit enough to keep himſelf warm, let him beare it for a difference betweene himſelf and his horſe, for it is all the wealth that he hath left, to be knowne a reaſonable

ble creature, who is his compani
a new ſworne brother.

Meſſ. Iſt poſſible?

Beat. Very eaſily poſſible, he
ſhion of his hat, it euer changes

Meſſ. I ſee lady the gentlem

Beat. No, and he were, I wo
you who is his companion? is t
will make a voyage with him to

Meſſ. He is moſt in the com
dio.

Beat. O Lord, he will hang
ſooner caught than the peſtilen
ly madde, God help the noble
Benedict, it will coſt him a thou

Meſſ. I will holde friends wi

Beat. Do good friend.

Leon. You will neuer runne

Beat. No, not till a hote Ianu

Meſſ. Don Pedro is approa

Enter don Pedro, Claud
and Iohn th

Pedro Good ſignior Leon
trouble: the faſhion of the wo
counter it.

Leon. Neuer came trouble
your grace, for trouble being g
but when you depart from mee
takes his leaue.

Pedro You embrace your c
this is your daughter.

Leonato Her mother hath

Bened. Were you in doub

Leonato Signior Benedicke

Pedro You haue it full Ben
what you are, being a man, t